

CHLORAMPHENICOL

B. P.

Broadens the scope of antibiotic therapy

—against Gram-negative Bacteria,

CAPSULES
OF
CHLORAMPHENICOL
B.P.

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General Indications
part

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Atypical Pneumonia



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The pre-eminence of penicillin in the treatment of many common bacterial infections and its freedom from toxic effects have been established by years of clinical experience. There are, however, a number of pathogenic organisms and viruses against which it is ineffective both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. The scope of antibiotic therapy was widened by the introduction of streptomycin which, when used alone or concurrently with penicillin, is often effective against some of these penicillin-resistant organisms. The range of organisms not susceptible to antibiotic therapy has been narrowed considerably by the introduction of Chloramphenicol, a new antibiotic which is effective when given by mouth.

Chloramphenicol is effective *in vitro* against a wide range of pathogenic organisms including some viruses and rickettsiae. Infections in which Chloramphenicol is particularly indicated include atypical (virus) pneumonia, whooping cough; urinary tract infections; bacillary dysentery; infantile gastro-enteritis; salmonella food poisoning; cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea which exhibit resistance to penicillin; typhoid infections, paratyphoid B fever; undulant fever; all forms of typhus, rickettsial fever and Q fever. It may also be useful in the prevention of surgical infections and the treatment of herpes zoster, virus hepatitis, psittacosis and lymphogranuloma inguinale.

Two capsules are taken every three hours on the first day followed by two capsules every six hours for the next five days or until the patient has been afebrile for about four days.

Rickettsiæ and many Viruses

Bacterial Pneumonia

It is recommended that two capsules be given every three to four hours until the patient is afebrile, after which the dose can be reduced but treatment should be continued for about four or five days.

Whooping Cough

The initial dose for whooping cough is 100 mg. per kg. of body-weight on the first day, followed by maintenance doses at three-hourly intervals. Suitable maintenance doses are 60 mg. for infants under one year, 125 mg. for children of one to three years, and 250 mg. for those over three years. These small amounts may be given by suspending the Chloramphenicol in lemon-flavoured syrup or Alficetyn Suppositories may be used.

Urinary Infections

In those cases which prove penicillin-resistant it may be possible to obtain remission of symptoms by giving 3 to 4 capsules of Chloramphenicol every eight hours for the first two or three days until the urine is free from the principal invader and treatment is continued with one capsule every eight hours for about a week.

Venereal Disease

Chloramphenicol is effective *in vitro* against the causative organisms of syphilis and gonorrhœa, and may prove to be therapeutically effective in the treatment of cases which prove resistant to penicillin. When treating gonorrhœa care should be taken not to mask concomitant syphilis.

Dosage and Administration

Chloramphenicol is bacteriostatic in action and is effective when administered orally or rectally.

The dose and the frequency of repetition vary with the type of infection being treated. For the treatment of severe infections, the average dosage for adults is calculated on the basis of 50 mg. per kg. of body-weight and the amount thus determined is given in divided doses over 24 hours. Normally an adult will require a total of 2 to 3.75 grammes (8 to 15 capsules) in 24 hours during the initial stages of treatment.

Infants and children tolerate larger doses in proportion to their body-weight ; as much as 60 to 100 mg. per kg. may be given daily in divided doses.

When the patient is afebrile or when the condition is controlled, the dosage may be reduced to half the initial amounts and should be continued for a further five or six days. When children and others find it impossible to swallow the capsule, Chloramphenicol may be administered rectally and will produce effects comparable to those of oral administration. For this purpose Alficetyn Suppositories may be used in appropriate dosage.

Side Effects. Toxic reactions to Chloramphenicol are not numerous, but the most commonly occurring reactions are lesions of the mucous membrane, which follow a similar pattern to those that occur after the oral administration of other antibiotics. These are due to an overgrowth of yeast-like organisms such as *Candida* (*Monilia*) *albicans*, and may involve the tongue, mouth, vulva, vagina, peri-anal skin and rectum. At the first sign of monilial infection, Chloramphenicol should be withdrawn.

Presentation

Chloramphenicol B.P. is presented in capsules each containing 0.25 gramme and packed in bottles of 12 capsules.

ALFICETYN

TRADE MARK

containing Chloramphenicol B.P.

SUPPOSITORIES

Indications

Alficetyn Suppositories provide a means of administering Chloramphenicol to patients who are unable to swallow the capsules, or to retain medications administered orally.

Alficetyn Suppositories are indicated in the treatment of whooping cough, typhoid fever, dysentery, undulant fever and pneumonia.

Presentation

Alficetyn Suppositories (Infants) each contain 0.125 gramme Chloramphenicol tinted green ; in boxes of five suppositories. Alficetyn Suppositories (Older Children and Adults) each contain 0.250 gramme Chloramphenicol, tinted yellow ; in boxes of five suppositories.

Suggested Dosage

The dose varies with the age of the patient and the severity of the disease. For infants under one year, the average dose is one suppository of 0.125 gramme repeated every 4 to 6 hours ; for children between one and five years one suppository (0.125 gramme) every three or four hours and for children over five years and adults one or more suppository (0.250 gramme) every three or four hours.

ALFICETYN EYE OINTMENT

TRADE MARK

containing Chloramphenicol B.P. 1%

Indications

Many of the acute and chronic inflammatory conditions of the conjunctiva respond to treatment with Chloramphenicol when applied in the form of Alficetyn Eye Ointment.

Conditions for which Alficetyn Eye Ointment is particularly indicated include conjunctivitis due to infection with penicillin-resistant strains of staphylococci, streptococci, gonococci and pneumococci ; conjunctivitis due to infection with *Bact. Coli*, the Morax diplo-bacillus and that associated with virus infections such as trachoma, inclusion blenorrhœa and the conjunctival complications of herpes zoster.

Administration

A small quantity of Alficetyn Eye Ointment should be applied to the conjunctival surface of the lower and upper eyelids night and morning and, if necessary, at intervals of three hours throughout the day.

Presentation

Alficetyn Eye Ointment containing 1 per cent Chloramphenicol B.P. is issued in collapsible tubes containing 60 grains (4 grammes).

ALFICETYN EAR DROPS

TRADE MARK

containing Chloramphenicol B.P. 10%

Indications

Alficetyn Ear Drops are indicated in the treatment of many infections of the ear including chronic suppurative otitis media, chronic otitis externa and cavity infections following tympano-mastoidectomies and fenestration operations.

The reduction in time and effort to effect a cure in these conditions is most striking and Chloramphenicol applied topically in the form of Alficetyn Ear Drops is an advance on previous routine methods.

Administration

In the treatment of chronic otitis media and chronic otitis externa, lay the patient on one side with the affected ear uppermost. Clean away as much as possible of the discharge. Approximately half fill the external auditory meatus with Alficetyn Ear Drops and press the tragus in and out to send the solution into the middle ear.

Instillation of the solution should be made twice or thrice daily.

In the treatment of tympano-mastoid and fenestration operation cavities, the wick form of administration is often preferable. A wick made of cotton wool should be soaked in the solution, loosely packed in the ear and left in situ for 48 hours. In some cases one administration may be sufficient but others may require the procedure to be repeated three or four times at weekly intervals.

Presentation

Alficetyn Ear Drops (Chloramphenicol 10% in propylene glycol) are supplied in vials of 5 c.c. with a suitable dropper applicator.



A L L E N & H A N B U R Y S L T D L O N D O N E 2